

---

# **CHESTNUT LODGE CAFETERIA/ACTIVITIES BUILDING**

---

**Kathryn M. Kuranda, M. Arch.Hist.  
Principal Investigator**

**with**

**Christine Heidenrich, M.A.**

**R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.  
241 East Fourth Street  
Suite 100  
Frederick, Maryland 21701**

**December 30, 2003**

**Submitted to:**

**CITY OF ROCKVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
111 MARYLAND AVENUE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850**

---

## Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Technical.....	2
Substantive Issues.....	3
Architectural Design .....	3
Historical Association with Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA .....	3
Historical Association with Psychiatric Treatment at Chestnut Lodge.....	4
<b>DESIGN OF THE CHESTNUT LODGE CAFETERIA/ACTIVITIES BUILDING .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH, FAIA .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Education & Early Career .....	8
Keys, Smith, Satterlee, and Lethbridge 1950-1955.....	9
Smith and Satterlee 1955-1963 .....	10
Chloethiel Woodard Smith and Association 1963-1988.....	10
<b>CHESTNUT LODGE .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>FIGURES</b>	
<b>APPENDIX I – SUMMARY OF CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH’S WORK</b>	
<b>APPENDIX II – PHOTOGRAPHS OF CAFETERIA/ACTIVITIES BUILDING</b>	

## Chestnut Lodge Cafeteria/Activities Building

### Introduction

The Chestnut Lodge Cafeteria/Activities Building (1955, 1958, 1972) was nominated for local historic designation on October 24, 2003. A public hearing on the nomination was conducted by the Historic District Commission (HDC) on December 18, 2003. The purpose of this study is to present data to the HDC for consideration in the evaluation of whether the building and site satisfies the criteria for designation as a single site historic district.

This study was prepared by R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. on behalf of The Associated Companies, a local residential development company that is pursuing the redevelopment of the Chestnut Lodge property. Consultation with HDC staff, the Commission, and Associated Companies is on-going to identify and to address the preservation concerns related to redevelopment of the property.

Consideration of the Chestnut Lodge property for local historic designation has a complex history as summarized in the *Draft Chestnut Lodge Design Guidelines*.<sup>1</sup> The HDC considered the merits of the entire Chestnut Lodge property following a comprehensive 1997 study, titled *Archeological/Historical Survey and Historic District Designation Study for Chestnut Lodge*.<sup>2</sup> The rear portion of the hospital campus that encompasses the Cafeteria/Activities Building was found not recommended for designation at that time. The HDC most recently considered the significance of the Chestnut Lodge buildings in 2001, when the elements of highest significance were identified during the historic district rezoning that amended the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District to include the original 5-acre Woodlawn Hotel lot. The HDC identified the original Woodlawn Hotel/Chestnut Lodge, the Dr. Frieda Fromm-Reichmann House, and the landscaped lawn adjoining West Montgomery Avenue as resources of primary significance.

Buildings and landscapes associated with the recent past have been identified internationally by the preservation community as a class of resources warranting serious investigation. The National Register of Historic Places historically has included recent resources of exceptional significance, while maintaining a general 50-year age requirement for the evaluation of the majority of properties. Exceptional importance is defined by the National Register Program as the measure of a property's significance within its appropriate historic context. This requirement recognizes the necessity of historical perspective in assessing buildings within the body of an architect's work as well as assessing the importance of the building within the historical and architectural development of the period. The National Register of Historic Places currently includes an estimated 45 historic properties in Maryland that have achieved exceptional significance within the past fifty years.

The Historic District Commission for the City of Rockville has established criteria for local historical designation that generally holds single-site districts to higher standards than contributing resources in multi-site districts. Single-site designations are based on the historical, cultural, and architectural significance of the resource. While resources generally are 50 years or older for HDC consideration

---

<sup>1</sup> Rockville Historic District Commission Staff, "Draft Chestnut Lodge Design Guidelines," 2003, 29.

<sup>2</sup> Ward Bucher Architects, *Archeological/Historical Survey and Historic District Designation Study for Chestnut Lodge*, 1997.

(including demolition permits), buildings that have particular significance for Rockville are not necessarily excluded from consideration.

## **Summary**

The Chestnut Lodge Cafeteria/Activities Building is being considered for local designation as a building with architectural and historical importance. The building was designed by the architect Chloethiel Woodward Smith and constructed as part of the Chestnut Lodge campus from 1955 to 1972.

The evaluation of the Cafeteria/ Activities Building raises several unique technical and substantive issues. These issues are summarized below.

## **Technical**

- The buildings of major importance to Chestnut Lodge from its construction as the Woodlawn Hotel (c.1888-89) and as a private psychiatric hospital have been previously recognized through the designation of the eight acres currently included in the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District. This designation recognizes both the main hospital building and buildings associated with the Bullard medical dynasty and Dr. Frieda Fromm-Reichmann.
- The Cafeteria/ Activities Building is an interior building on the private campus and physically removed from the existing historic district by both distance, orientation, and later construction. In addition, the Cafeteria/ Activities Building differs in design from the existing historic area. The original hospital campus comprised 120 acres and associated buildings and no longer survives. The Cafeteria/Activities Building is not physically part of the recognizable entity that is the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District and it is logical to assess the building as an individual resource.
- The date of construction for the building is not 1955. The building was constructed in 3 phases over a period of 17 years from 1955 to 1972. While buildings are generally dated from the time of original construction, the Cafeteria/Activities Building was designed as a phased Activities and Physical Recreation Center, which was initiated with construction of the “Activities Wing” (2,800 ± sq. ft.) in 1955. The wing was built with the anticipation that it would be expanded to a larger building in accordance with the overall plan. This plan was followed in the 1958 addition, but not in 1972.<sup>3</sup>

The original plan, architectural program, and architectural design was abandoned in 1972 when the Cafeteria added 5,300 square feet and dramatically altered the design of the overall building. Because of this sequence of design and construction, both the “time” and the dominant architectural style of the building are open to debate.

- The study of the recent past and the architectural context for resource evaluation has recently begun in Maryland. Among the most publicized work has been through a multi-year study

---

<sup>3</sup> See Figures 1-4.

funded by the Maryland Historical Trust that is in-progress at the University of Maryland School of Architecture. Comparative research to assess the importance of individual buildings and building types still is incomplete.

- Additional research is needed to identify significant resources in Rockville from the late twentieth century. The City of Rockville experienced a tremendous growth in the second half of the twentieth century. Although it can be argued that all buildings constructed during this period are related to the history of development of the city, not all of these twentieth century buildings have been documented or are worthy of historic district designation.

### Substantive Issues

#### *Architectural Design*

- The design of the Cafeteria/Activities Building should be considered holistically as a single building constructed in three phases, rather than a 1955 building with two additions. The overall building was designed in 1955 as a five-phase construction. The Activities Wing was the first phase of the building. The original plan was followed in the second phase of construction completed in 1958. The Cafeteria, constructed in 1972 more than doubled the size of the building and was the final phase of construction. The Cafeteria differed dramatically from the original architectural program, plan, and design concept.<sup>4</sup> The Cafeteria dominates the building and is not equal in design quality to the earlier design.

#### *Historical Association with Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA*

- The Cafeteria/Activities Building is neither representative of Chloethiel Woodard Smith's work nor is it representative of her well-documented contribution to planning and design. Not every building designed by an architect is worthy of historical designation. Smith was a prolific designer and urban planner known for her large-scale complexes of residential and commercial buildings. Her work emphasized multi-unit commissions in conjunction with master planning, frequently in new towns and urban redevelopment areas. She is most widely recognized in her professional career with the redevelopment of Southwest Washington, D.C., planned residential communities across the county, and monumental commercial buildings in downtown D.C. Her fifty-year career is exceptionally well documented through newspaper articles, popular periodicals, professional journals, and scholarly research.

Planning and design for medical facilities were never a focus of her practice. Indeed, Chestnut Lodge appears to an anomaly in her base of private developers, government, military, and government clients. The Activities Wing received favorable professional coverage for the design of the first wing when it was constructed in 1955, however, this coverage does not appear to have lead to major commissions for other clients in the medical sector.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> See Figures 1-3.

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix I.

The Activities Wing was not intended as a freestanding building, but rather as the first phase of an overall design of an Activities Complex, which was most likely integral to a master plan for the hospital campus. Research has not uncovered this master plan, but its development is referenced in Smith's papers. Neither the original design of Smith's complex nor the master plan was executed.

#### *Historical Association with Psychiatric Treatment at Chestnut Lodge*

- Patient activities programs were not associated with the important contributions of Chestnut Lodge in the field of mental health during the period 1931 to 1969. Chestnut Lodge was a private psychiatric hospital that operated for 85-years from 1910 to 1995 under the medical directorships of three generations of the Bullard family. The character of the facility, emphasis in treatment, contributions to the field of mental health, and role in the community changed over time with each successive generation.

Under the leadership of Dr. Dexter M. Bullard, Sr. (1931 to 1969), Chestnut Lodge was known for intensive psychotherapy in patient treatment and for psychiatric research. Chestnut Lodge became an exclusive private hospital serving a national patient base and was known for its discretion and patient privacy.

The hospital emphasized intensive individual psychoanalysis in treatment. Each patient was assigned two psychiatrists and was required to undergo four sessions of psychotherapy per week. Activities and occupational therapy were not structured or integrated parts of treatment programs, although they were available.

Chestnut Lodge's commitment to intensive, individual psychotherapy as a primary treatment approach was reaffirmed in the 1940s. Following World War II, the field of psychiatry increasingly was divided into three factions. Psychotherapy emphasized "talk" therapy, pharmacotherapy advocated the use of new drugs, and biological psychiatry emphasized physiological causes in treating mental disturbance.

In 1947 the Chestnut Lodge established a separate, but affiliated, research center on the campus to study psychotherapy in the treatment of schizophrenic patients. Significant research was accomplished through the center as evidenced by Chestnut Lodge's annual conferences, research grants, and related professional publications. A cursory review of papers and publications associated with the hospital did not identify titles associated with role of activities in patient treatment.

A separate research center was designed by Chloethiel Woodard Smith at Chestnut Lodge in 1957. This building, which was located on the tract developed as Rose Hill, was most closely associated with the hospital's major contributions in psychiatric research. This building has been demolished.

Chestnut Lodge was a presence in the community but was not a community institution. Newspaper stories on Chestnut Lodge frequently commented on the closed and secretive

nature of the facility. Only five per cent of its patients were drawn from Montgomery County until the 1970s. The West Montgomery Avenue entrance and views towards the monumental main hospital building established its public architectural image. These resources are included in the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District.

### **Design of the Chestnut Lodge Cafeteria/Activities Building**

The Chestnut Lodge Cafeteria/Activities Building was constructed in three phases (1955, 1958, and 1972) as part of the 120+ acre Chestnut Lodge psychiatric hospital campus (Figure 1). The building was interior to the private complex and not visible from the public right of way. The building was designed by Washington D.C. architect and urban planner, Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA.<sup>6</sup> The building is physically separated from the eight acre historically designated area by existing buildings and was originally sited as an isolated structure surrounded by open space. Although the Activities Center may have been part of a larger master plan, Smith's master plan was not implemented. The building is currently oriented east towards four residential dormitories constructed in 1987. The Cafeteria/Activities Building serves as the western terminus of the dormitory complex.

The steel frame and masonry single-story building is a low scale institutional building that is modern in design. Exterior walls incorporate brick veneer, glazing, and masonite panels. The building is defined by a flat roof with massive, exposed mechanicals and extended eaves; modular construction; and expanses of glazing. The asymmetrical building is supported by a concrete slab foundation that is exposed on the exterior face of the cafeteria. This shallow concrete base extends from the face of the addition and is articulated by a precast concrete cap course. The original building, which was designed for future expansion, encompassed approximately 2,800 square feet. The 1958 addition extended the building approximately 2,000 square feet to the north. The north cafeteria wing, constructed in 1972, added approximately 5,300 square feet to the building, more than doubling the size of the original building.

The first phase of construction incorporated the T-shaped footprint of the south end of the building. The design was discussed in detail in a September 1955 *Architectural Forum* article, "Seven Health Buildings." The article provides insights into the design and construction of the building as well as the original design intent of the architect<sup>7</sup>.

Erected at a cost of \$32,000.00, the original building was the "Therapy Building Wing" designed by Smith as the partner in charge of design for the architectural firm of Keys, Smith, Satterlee & Lethbridge. J. Gibson Wilson, Jr. served as the structural consultant and Bradley C. Karn was the general contractor (Figure 2). The original design was a transparent, open pavilion utilizing steel columns with open-web joists that were spaced at eight-foot intervals to accommodate exterior wall panels and stock window sash. Floor to ceiling glazing was subdivided into three parts. Lower panels were glazed in colored, unbreakable plastic. The middle panels were single glazed sheets and the upper panels were side by side aluminum sliders for ventilation.

The open interior plan was functionally divided into three activity areas: lounge-library with north wall fireplace, audio-visual, and multi-purpose room. The library and audio-visual areas were separated by library units. The west end of the building included music and typing practice rooms. The north T extension housed a kitchen and a therapist's office with a temporary end wall designed to accommodate building expansion. The structure of the building was exposed; floors were tiled and wood decking was

---

<sup>6</sup> American Institute of Architects, Jury of Fellows, "Nomination for Fellowship by Individual Members," 1958.

<sup>7</sup> "Seven Health Buildings," *Architectural Forum* 103, no. 3 (1955): 132-155.

exposed above the webbed ceiling joists. The building was designed to interact with the surrounding hospital campus and to encourage outdoor recreation through exterior activity areas, including an entrance terrace with exterior fireplace.

The initial building was designed for expansion as suggested by the text captions accompanying plan illustrations in the 1955 *Architectural Forum* article, "Seven Health Buildings." Smith's 1955 design for the overall building envisioned its expansion in five phases to create an activities complex incorporating a workshop, gymnasium, playing courts, locker room, pool, and a wing for bowling or future services (Figure 3). The schematic for this design depicts rectangular functional areas connected by attenuated transitional spaces. These transitional spaces link the discrete spaces and create a west interior courtyard surrounding the proposed playing courts. Consistent massing on the eastern face, as well as the functional division of space into clean rectangular pavilions in plan, unified the plan of the overall complex.

The main entrance terrace, constructed during the first phase of construction, was retained as a dominant feature of the proposed plan; additions to the building extended the building to the north and west. While the original vision of the overall building significantly expanded the footprint of the complex, it also retained the domestic character established in the design of the initial wing. Indeed, many of the design approaches integrated into the original wing, such as modular design, glazed walls, low scale single story massing, and open activity areas based on rectangular plans had entered the mainstream architectural vocabulary for domestic design by the mid-1950s and also were used by Smith in residential design.

The application of a residential approach to the Activities Building can be seen as a continuation of the architectural precedent established by Chestnut Lodge in earlier building campaigns. Buildings previously added to the hospital were domestic in design and reflected popular architectural styles. The expressed structure, low rectangular massing, open spans, and transparent interplay between interior and exterior were hallmarks of Modernist design and pioneered by such recognized masters as Mies Van Der Rohe in Barcelona Pavilion (1929), the Tugendhat House (1928-30), the Resor House (1938), as well as buildings constructed in the 1940s and 50s on the IIT campus.<sup>8</sup>

Smith's original vision for the overall building was retained in the second phase of construction, completed in 1958. The north wing of the Activities Building was extended to link the main room to a north workshop, thus creating an east elevation entrance courtyard. The open interior design, structural system, materials, and exterior treatments used in the first phase of construction were continued in the second.

The original architectural program and overall design proposed for the complex in 1955 was abandoned in the design of the Cafeteria addition added in 1972. The Cafeteria represents a departure from the design approach utilized in the first two phases of construction as well as in the overall architectural character of the building. The Cafeteria addition more than doubled the size from approximately 4,800 square feet to 10,100 square feet. While the final phase of the building continued the one-story scale, flat roof with extended eaves, and brick veneer used in the first phases of construction, the earlier transparent pavilion design encouraging interior and exterior interaction and structural expression in design was replaced by masonry block articulated by brick panels and a wide concrete cornice. In contrast to the earlier design, in which interior space was oriented towards the surrounding landscape and campus, the Cafeteria was designed to segregate building users from the landscape. The Cafeteria is institutional rather than residential in architectural character.

---

<sup>8</sup> Franz Schulze in association with the Mies Van Der Rohe Archive of the Museum of Modern Art, *Mies Van Der Rohe: A Critical Biography* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1985).



The massing of the Cafeteria also differs from the earlier building and the design proposed for the overall complex in 1955. The clean geometry of discrete rectangular functional areas was replaced with a more compact and square plan that extends beyond the east elevation of the original building. The overall mass of the Cafeteria is relieved by its asymmetrical plan. Exterior design of the Cafeteria includes expanses of brick panels defined by a concrete base and cornice with a vertical emphasis as opposed to the horizontal banding of glazing, brick, and masonite panels found in the earlier phases of construction.

The size, massing, and architectural character of the Cafeteria addition impacted the integrity of the original 1950s design of the Activities Wing. The Cafeteria physically dominates the building in square footage. The projecting entrance to the Cafeteria now is the primary entrance to the overall structure; the original entrance court is secondary in the design hierarchy. The building currently functions as a component of the dormitory complex, rather than the isolated activity focus of an open landscape.

Because of the lag in construction of the building and change in architectural program between 1955, 1958, and 1972, the building exhibits two dramatically different design solutions. The first solution resulted in a wing, which was domestic in character and established the design blueprint for expansion through plan geometry, materials, massing, and proportion. The Cafeteria wing, in contrast, which is attributed to Smith, is a functional, undistinguished institutional design that negatively impacts the integrity of the building. The resulting building is not an integrated whole and is not equal in architectural quality to Smith's characteristic polished design.

Dr. Dexter M. Bullard, Sr. retained Smith as the architect for a number of large and small projects during his tenure as Medical Director.<sup>9</sup> Smith maintained an association with Chestnut Lodge through the late 1970s. Smith and her associated architectural firms (Keys, Smith, Satterlee, and Lethbridge 1950-1955; Smith and Satterlee 1955-1963; Chloethiel Woodard Smith and Associates 1963- 1988) developed a master plan for an 80-bed hospital, 36-bed hospital, and five-building children's center (1957), a psychotherapy research center (1956), the gymnasium (1977), and nurses' quarters (1958). The Research Center has been demolished. The master plan is referenced in Smith's 1958 *Nomination for Fellowship in The American Institute of Architects*. A search of Smith's unaccessioned drawings at the American Architectural Foundation failed to uncover the master plan. Chestnut Lodge appears to have been Smith's only medical client as suggested by a compilation of her known work (Appendix A). Smith was an accomplished architect known for her large-scale planning, residential, and commercial development, the vast majority of which was constructed in Washington, D.C. The highlights of her career are summarized below.

### **Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA**

Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA (1910 – 1992) was a prolific, outspoken, and respected urban planner, architect, writer, and educator whose career was closely associated with large-scale residential and commercial development, particularly in Washington, D.C. Her work demonstrated a lifelong commitment to integration of architecture, community planning, and sensitive site design.

Her contributions to twentieth century urban planning and architectural design were recognized by the professional architectural community during her fifty-year career, which spanned 1933 to 1987. As noted in an article chronicling her work following her death in December, 1992, "... her specialty both as a planner and an architect was large-scale residential work."<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> Dexter M. Bullard, M.D., letter to The Jury of the Fellows, 28 January 1959.

<sup>10</sup> Benjamin Forgey, "On Chloethiel's Corner," *The Washington Post*, 1 January 1993, sec. D, p. 1.

By the 1960s, Smith was an acknowledged expert in contemporary city planning and large-scale community housing.<sup>11</sup> This recognition included an Award of Merit from American Institute of Architects (AIA) for the design of the Capitol Park Apartments in 1960. In that same year, Smith was named an AIA Fellow. Smith was later honored with the first Centennial Award by the District Chapter of the AIA in 1989. In addition to a full-time professional practice, Smith served on the President's Advisory Council on Pennsylvania Avenue (1963), the First Lady's Committee for Beautification of the Nation's Capital (1965), the President's National Committee on Urban Problems (1967-68), AIA Pan American Congress Committee Chairman (1965) and the National Commission of Fine Arts (1967-76).

### Education & Early Career

Chloethiel Woodard Smith was raised in Portland, Oregon and received a Bachelor of Architecture degree with honors from the University of Oregon in 1928. She completed her academic education in 1933 with the award of a Master of Architecture degree in city planning from Washington University, in Saint Louis.

Smith's later professional specialization in large scale urban residential and commercial design was foreshadowed by her 1933 master's thesis, *An Industrial Housing Community for the City of St. Louis* as noted by Jayne Lisabeth Doud in her 1994 Master of Arts thesis, *Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA: Washington's Urban Gem*.<sup>12</sup> Smith developed a comprehensive community plan for 2,000 families integrating housing, commercial, and public space as her graduate project.

Following graduation, Smith served as an intern architect from 1933 to 1935 in the New York City office of Ernest Kahn and Henry Wright and also worked as a freelance designer and draftsman with the Housing Study Guild during the same period. This latter association brought Smith into contact with such innovative urban planners and theorists as Lewis Mumford, Henry Wright, and Clarence Stein.<sup>13</sup>

Smith moved to Washington, D.C. in 1935 to accept a position with the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) where she was promoted to Senior Architect, Chief of Research and Planning for the Large Scale Housing Division. Smith resigned from the FHA in 1939 to return to private practice as a designer with A.R. Clas. Smith was active in the Washington D.C. Chapter of the AIA and a vocal critic on local planning issues.

Following her marriage to Foreign Service Officer Bromley K. Smith, in 1940, Smith accompanied her husband on his postings to Canada, Burma, and Bolivia from 1940 to 1946 (Doud 1994: 12-14). Smith continued her architectural career throughout this period. She designed the Union Club, La Paz, Bolivia (1943), held the position of Profesora de Arquitectura y Urbanismo, Escuela de Arquitectura, Universidad Mayor de San Andres, La Paz, Bolivia (1941), designed hospitals in Guayamerin and Riberalba, Bolivia (1944), lectured on city planning and housing following the receipt of a Guggenheim Traveling Fellowship (1944), undertook a report to the Mayor of Quito, Equator on a new master plan (1945), and wrote articles for *Architectural Forum* on architecture and city planning in Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile (1946).<sup>14</sup>

---

<sup>11</sup> Jayne Lisabeth Doud, "Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA: Washington's Urban Gem" (master's thesis, University of Oregon, 1994), 2.

<sup>12</sup> *ibid.*, 3.

<sup>13</sup> *ibid.*, 12-14.

<sup>14</sup> American Institute of Architects, Jury of Fellows.

Smith joined the architectural firm of Berla and Abel upon returning to Washington D.C. in 1946. Berla and Abel was known for housing and apartment buildings in the D.C. area. The firm also designed Army family housing complexes under the Wherry and Capehart acts. Among Smith's colleagues at Berla and Abel were architects, Arthur Keys, Nick Satterlee, and Francis Lethbridge. By 1949, the four architects left Berla and Abel to establish independent practices in a shared common office.<sup>15</sup>

### Keys, Smith, Satterlee, and Lethbridge 1950-1955

This relationship lead to a loose partnership in 1950. The practice was known for its modernist designs. "The partners disdained what they viewed as historical affectation and rejected many commissions where it was called for. They discovered a market niche and thought of it as the wave of the future. "Actually," Keyes reflected, "we didn't have much competition in terms of modern architecture."<sup>16</sup>

The firm attracted favorable attention for residential design. Residential work included the Pine Spring Development in Fairfax County, Virginia, which encompassed a planned residential community of 125 dwelling and apartments, a shopping center, and a park. The community designed for moderate and middle-income residents was profiled in the November 1952 issue of *House & Home* and the June 1953 issue of *House Beautiful*. The firm also was awarded first prize in a residential design contest sponsored by the Carrier Corporation, as reported in the June 1953 issue of *House & Home*. The design for a flat roof dwelling included a 12 X 24 foot multi-purpose room adjoining the kitchen. Other residential work completed during the period included a twenty-unit apartment building in Arlington, Virginia reported in the December 1953 issue of *House & Home*, as well as several studies of military buildings. This latter category of work included the design of family housing units for nine Air Force bases.<sup>17</sup> Smith also undertook the design and oversaw construction of the Office Building and Embassy Residence in Asuncion, Paraguay in the early 1950s. The project was represented in *Architectural Record* in May 1955 on embassy projects.<sup>18</sup>

Smith initiated work with Louis Justement on an ambitious master plan for the redevelopment of southwest Washington D.C. in 1952 that influenced her future career. The *Rebuilding Southwest Washington: A Report to the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency*, generally known as the Justement-Smith Plan, was commissioned by the District of Columbia Redevelopment Land Agency and the Home Finance Agency to address the problem of blight in the 427 acre area and was one of a series of proposed plans for Southwest. The Justement-Smith Plan proposed the demolition and redevelopment of the area, as well as the addition of new streets to access the area. The plan proposed 135 acres of high-density housing, 55 acres of parks, schools, and recreation, 24 acres of commercial development, and 36 acres of industrial development. While a *Compromise Plan* developed by Harland Bartholomew for the National Capital Planning Commission was later adopted that same year, the Justement-Smith Plan was influential and well-publicized.<sup>19</sup> The plan, and its implications to urban redevelopment in other cities was discussed in detail by Mary Mix Foley in the August 1952 issues of *Architectural Forum*.<sup>20</sup>

---

<sup>15</sup> Doud, p. 17.

<sup>16</sup> Benjamin Forgey, "Cityscape: The Men Who Made Theirs Modern, Arthur Keys and David Condon's Half Century," *The Washington Post*, 6 June 1992, sec. C, pp. 1, 5.

<sup>17</sup> American Institute of Architects, Jury of Fellows.

<sup>18</sup> "Architecture to Represent America Abroad," *Architectural Record* 142, no. 5 (1955): 187-192; American Institute of Architects, Jury of Fellows.

<sup>19</sup> Doud, 33-59.

<sup>20</sup> Mary Mix Foley, "What is urban redevelopment? Replanning of Washington's famous Capitol slums poses a basic question for every US community," *Architectural Forum* 101, no. 8 (1952): 124-131.

### Smith and Satterlee 1955-1963

The architectural firm of Keys, Smith, Satterlee, and Lethbridge was dissolved in 1955. Smith and Satterlee established an architectural partnership that continued until 1963. Several well-publicized projects designed during this period advanced Smith's reputation as an urban planner and designer. Among the most notable were the award winning Capitol Park Apartments (1960), the E Street Expressway from 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> streets, and Waterview townhouses on Lake Anne in Reston, Virginia (early 1960s).

The 402-unit Capitol Park Apartments is the best known of Smith's work in the period and was awarded the AIA Award of Merit in 1960. Located in the Southwest redevelopment area of Washington, D.C., Capitol Park Apartments was part of a proposed 1,600 unit development. The project combines high rise apartments with low-rise townhouses and integrated on-site parking with formal landscaping. The AIA Jury noted that the apartment complex "is well located within the landscape and architecturally shows a restrained and sensitive use of the grill."<sup>21</sup>

### Chloethiel Woodard Smith and Associates 1963- 1988

In 1963 Smith established her own architectural firm. Smith continued her work in the Southwest renewal area with the design of Harbour Square, a residential development incorporating apartment blocks and townhouses for 445 families. Smith commented on her design in the September 1963 issue of *Architectural Record*, "The landscaped site with glimpses of a motor plaza below creates an urban pedestrian square with an acre of water garden as its dominant design element."<sup>22</sup>

Other major planning and residential work included La Clede Town, a twelve acre residential redevelopment designed between 1962 and 1965 in St. Louis within stringent FHA design requirements. The townhouse infill project included 680 units when completed. The design was characterized in a 1966 *Fortune* magazine article as an attempt to recreate the spirit of old St. Louis and to reintroduce a sense of community through amenities.<sup>23</sup>

Smith was instrumental in influencing the rehabilitation of the monumental Pension Building by Montgomery C. Meigs in Washington D.C. through her 1966 study for the General Service Administration. This study concluded that a museum would be an "ideal client."<sup>24</sup>

Three of Smith's major commercial commissions combined to dominate the design of Connecticut and L streets in Washington, D.C. The evolution of the intersection was fully realized in the closing years of her career. By late 1970s and 1980s, her office was devoted increasingly to commercial work in the District.<sup>25</sup> Coined "Chloethiel's Corner" by Washington Post writer Benjamin Forgey, the three high rise commercial buildings located at the intersection are designed in Smith's restrained modern approach.

---

<sup>21</sup> "The 1960 AIA Honor Awards," *AIA Journal* 33 (1960): 88.

<sup>22</sup> "Harbour Square," *Architectural Record* 151, no. 9 (1963): 202-204.

<sup>23</sup> "The Blithe Spirit of St. Louis," *Fortune* 100, no. 1 (1966): 175.

<sup>24</sup> National Building Museum, "Museum News/Tribute," *Blueprints* spring 1993, accessed at [www.nbm.org/blueprints/90s/spring93/page13/page13.htm](http://www.nbm.org/blueprints/90s/spring93/page13/page13.htm).

<sup>25</sup> Henry W. Schirmer, AIA, ed., *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms* (no publisher name or location available, 1978); Schirmer, AIA, ed., *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms* (no publisher name or location available,

The first of these structures, 1100 Connecticut Avenue was begun in 1964 and was faced in gray Minnesota granite with tinted glass.<sup>26</sup> The 11-story Blake Building, constructed of precast concrete, was reviewed as “rather suavely to recall more elegant, earlier modern offices.”<sup>27</sup> Washington Square (1987), a 12-story, one million square foot business center is a marble and glass building incorporating two hexagon atriums.<sup>28</sup>

Choethiel Woodard Smith devoted her career to large-scale residential and commercial redevelopment projects that epitomized then current theories on housing, community planning and modern design. These large-scale projects were acknowledged during her life by the architectural community and highlighted in her frequent interviews. The Activities Building/Cafeteria Building at Chestnut Lodge is not representative of her professional contribution to architecture and urban planning. The building, as constructed, is not indicative of the design sophistication and quality that characterized her work.

## Chestnut Lodge

Chestnut Lodge operated as a private psychiatric hospital under the direction of three generations of the Bullard medical dynasty from 1910 to 1996. The establishment and significant contributions of the institution to psychotherapy under the direct of Dr. Ernest Bullard (1859-1931), and Dr. Dexter Bullard, Sr. (1898-1981) have been documented extensively in previous investigations and staff reports. Important innovations in psychiatric care and major contributions to the field of mental health were made at the institution, and by its acclaimed staff, during its first four decades of operation. The private hospital emphasized intense psychotherapy, usually four hours per week, and prohibited controversial treatments, such as electroshock, drugs, lobotomies, and insulin comas.<sup>29</sup> Topics less intensely explored are the debate surrounding the hospital's commitment to psychotherapy as a preferred treatment in the post World War II period, as well as the expansion of programs for adolescents and children, community outreach, and clinical drug trials initiated by Dr. Dexter Bullard, Jr. (1929-1995) during his tenure as medical director from 1969 to 1994.

Chestnut Lodge historically developed as a small, expensive, and therapy intensive facility that closely protected the privacy of its patients. The institution practiced on a national rather than local level as late as 1974 when five per cent of the hospital's patients were drawn from the Washington metropolitan area and the average stay for a patient ranged from two to five years.<sup>30</sup> The average patient stay had decreased to 15 months by 1989; the average at other private psychiatric hospitals was 24 days.<sup>31</sup> Chestnut Lodge reaffirmed its earlier commitment to psychoanalysis in the 1950s during a period when the psychiatric profession was increasingly fractionalized into proponents of psychotherapy, pharmacotherapy, biological psychiatry, or combined therapies.<sup>32</sup>

---

1980): 158; Schirmer, FAIA, publisher, *Profile: Official Directory of the AIA* (Topeka, Kansas: Archimedia, 1983): 211.

<sup>26</sup> Benjamin Forgey, “The Work of an Architect is Compromise,” *Washington Star*, 2 February 1977, sec. C, p.1.

<sup>27</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>28</sup> John B. Willmann, “Mystery Ends Surrounding Plans For Washington Square Complex,” *The Washington Post*, 3 May 1981, sec.G, pp. 1, 4.

<sup>29</sup> Maryland Psychiatric Society, Inc., “Profile of a Maryland Hospital,” *The Maryland Psychiatrist* 1, no. 2 (March 1974): 6.

<sup>30</sup> Hank Plante, “Inside Chestnut Lodge,” *Montgomery County Sentinel*, 24 October 1974.

<sup>31</sup> Sandra G. Boodman, “The Mystery of Chestnut Lodge,” *The Washington Post Magazine*, 8 October 1989, 18.

<sup>32</sup> Nathan G. Hale Jr., Ph.D., “American Psychoanalysis since World War II,” *American Psychiatry after World War II, 1944-1994* (Washington, D.C.: American Psychiatric Press, Inc., 2000): 79.

Chestnut Lodge actively pursued research into the role of psychotherapy in the treatment of schizophrenic patients. The hospital established a research center in 1947, which was expanded in the 1950s through a \$250,000.00 grant from the Ford Foundation.<sup>33</sup>

Smith designed a single story, brick and glass building that housed the psychiatric research institute in 1956. This building was, perhaps, most closely associated with the research contribution at Chestnut Lodge and has been demolished.

By the 1970s, Chestnut Lodge was actively expanding its programs in adolescent and child psychiatry and community outreach. These expanded programs necessitated a construction program that resulted in the residential complex sited in the interior of the campus.<sup>34</sup> Facilities added during this period included four dormitories for the treatment of up to 32 children between the ages of 6 through 17, the Cafeteria, Nurses Dormitories, and Gymnasium. By 1985, Chestnut Lodge school was among several Montgomery County schools that educated and treated children with emotional difficulties.<sup>35</sup> Assessing the historical importance of the Chestnut Lodge program to adolescent mental health and Montgomery County education requires greater historical perspective and study of comparative building types.

## Conclusion

Chestnut Lodge is a local landmark whose significance as the Woodlawn Hotel and as a private psychiatric hospital to the City of Rockville has been recognized through local historic district designation. The existing district encompasses the main hospital building and dwellings associated with the Bullard Family and Dr. Frieda Fromm-Reichmann.

The Cafeteria/Activities Building is physically isolated from the historic district and served as an interior support structure for the hospital. The 1955 Wing was built as the first phase of an Activities/Physical Recreation Complex; the overall building, completed in 1972, was not constructed according to the original design. The 1972 Cafeteria differs in architectural character, program, and design sophistication from the first wing. The Cafeteria dominates the existing building in size, mass, and architectural image.

While the building is credited to architect Chloethiel Woodard Smith, it does not possess the design characteristics recognized as significant in her fifty-year body of work. Smith is known for her large-scale residential and commercial development constructed as part of complex community and urban redevelopment plans that are subtle and sophisticated in their application of the modern architectural idiom. The Cafeteria/Activities Building is a mundane and pedestrian example of her work that does not represent a significant example of her work.

The building also was not directly associated with Chestnut Lodge's significant contributions to the field of psychiatry under the medical directorship of Dr. Dexter Bullard, Sr. The nationally recognized hospital was known for its treatment in intensive individual psychotherapy, and for research on psychotherapy in the treatment of schizophrenic patients. Activities and occupational therapy played a minor role in this residential treatment. The Cafeteria/Activities Building does not possess the architectural or historical significance necessary to qualify as an individual historic district.

---

<sup>33</sup> "Area Research Center Given \$250,000 Gift," *Montgomery County Sentinel*, 28 June 1956; "Chestnut Lodge Ford Grant Has 4 More Years To Run," *Montgomery County Sentinel*, 13 June 1957.

<sup>34</sup> Tineke Haase, "Chestnut Lodge Psychiatric Clinic Opens to Youngsters," *Montgomery Journal*, 9 October 1975.

<sup>35</sup> Elizabeth McAllister, "Special Schools 'Salvage Lives' of Disturbed Students," *The Washington Post*, 30 May 1985, Maryland Weekly, 1.

## Bibliography

Abrams, David

- 2001 "Council rejects late attempt to keep CPC intact." *Gazette*, 18 April, page A-18

### ***AIA Journal***

- 1960 "The 1960 AIA Honor Awards." April, page 88

American Institute of Architects

- 1958 "Nomination for Fellowship by Individual Members," Chloethiel Woodard Smith  
1963 Biography sheet on Chloethiel Woodard Smith

### ***Architectural Forum***

- 1955 "Seven Health Buildings." September, pp. 132-135  
1959 "First step toward a new Washington." December, pp. 114-118

### ***Architectural Record***

- 1955 "Architecture to Represent America Abroad." May, pp. 187-192  
1956 "Fairfax County, Va." March, pp. 176-179  
1959 "Washington 'Efficiency.'" June, pp. 212-213  
1960 "High-Low Rise in Washington." October, pp. 214-215  
1963 "Harbour Square." September, pp. 202-204

### ***Baltimore Business Journal***

- 2000 "Industry Wrapups." 27 November

Ban Breathnach, Sarah

- 1979 "Chloethiel Woodard Smith: Building Blocks." *The Washington Post Magazine*, 25 February, page 31

Barnes, Bart

- 1993 "Chloethiel Woodard Smith, Architect and Planner, Dies." *The Washington Post*, 1 January, page B6

Boodman, Sandra G.

- 1989 "The Mystery of Chestnut Lodge." *The Washington Post Magazine*, 8 October, page 18

Boodman, Sandra G. and Thomas Grubisich

- 1981 "Developer's Empire Based on Instinct." *The Washington Post*, 2 August, page A1

Bower, Bruce

- 1997 "New schizophrenia therapy shows promise." *Science News Online*, 8 November. Accessed 21 November 2003 at [www.sciencenews.org/sn\\_arc97/11\\_8\\_97/fob3.htm](http://www.sciencenews.org/sn_arc97/11_8_97/fob3.htm)  
2001 "Back from the Brink: Psychological treatments for schizophrenia attract renewed interest." *Science News Online*, 28 April. Accessed 21 November 2003 at [www.sciencenews.org/20010428/bob12.asp](http://www.sciencenews.org/20010428/bob12.asp)

Bredemeier, Kenneth

- 1980 "Sale of Tregaron Ordered by Court as Heirs Quarrel." *The Washington Post*, 17 January, page A1

Bullard, Dexter M., M.D.

- 1959 Letter to the Jury of the Fellows, American Institute of Architects
- 1968 "History of Chestnut Lodge." Unpublished transcript of speech given in Toronto, Canada. Located in Bullard Family file, Peerless Rockville

Busfield, Joan

- 1986 *Managing Madness, Changing Ideas and Practice*. Hutchinson & Co., London

*Chloethiel Woodard Smith and Associated Architects*

- n.d. Firm-produced publication summarizing major work, probably for marketing purposes

Conroy, Sarah Booth

- 1979 "Turning Your Back to the Street." *The Washington Post*, 13 May, page D1
- 1989 "Sketches of a Designing Woman, Architect Chloethiel Woodard Smith, Leaving her Mark on Washington." *The Washington Post*, 4 November, page G1

*CPC Health News*

- 1999 "Children's Programs Take Center Stage." January 1999, page 3

Davis, Steve

- 1996 "'A great fit for both,' Psychiatric clinic wins bidding for famed Chestnut Lodge Hospital." *Gazette*. Undated, page 14. Located in CPC Health Corp. file at Peerless Rockville

Doud, Jayne Lisabeth

- 1994 *Chloethiel Woodard Smith, FAIA: Washington's Urban Gem*. Unpublished master's thesis, University of Oregon

Foley, Mary Mix

- 1952 "What is Architectural Redevelopment?" *Architectural Forum*, August, pp. 124-131.

Forgey, Benjamin

- 1977 "The Work of an Architect is a Compromise." *Washington Star*, 2 February, page C1
- 1982 "A 'Sittable' City." *The Washington Post*, 2 January, page C1
- 1982 "Cornering the Square." *The Washington Post*, 6 February, page C1
- 1982 "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly." *The Washington Post*, 7 August, page C1
- 1992 "Cityscape: The Men Who Made Theirs Modern, Arthur Keys and David Condon's Half Century." *The Washington Post*, 6 June, pp. C1, C5
- 1993 "On Chloethiel's Corner." *The Washington Post*, 1 January, page D1

*Fortune*

- 1966 "The Blithe Spirit of St. Louis." January, page 175



Freedheim, Donald K., ed.

- 1992 *History of Psychotherapy: A Century of Change*. American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Freeman, Walter, M.D.

- 1968 "The Bullards." *The Psychiatrist: Personalities and Patterns*. Grune Staton, New York

*Gazette*

- 1995 "Dexter Bullard Jr., long-time Chestnut Lodge director, dies." 16 August

Goldstein, Steven, Ph.D.

- 1997 "Memo from the CEO." *CPC News*, Winter/Spring, page 2

Groer, Annie

- 2002 "Making it Big." *The Washington Post*, 14 March, page H1

Haase, Tineke

- 1975 "Chestnut Lodge Psychiatric Clinic Opens to Youngsters." *Montgomery Journal*, 9 October

Harden, Blaine and Milton Shockley

- 1981 "The High-Cost Care at the Psychiatric Institute." *The Washington Post Magazine*, 22 November, page 26

Healy, David

- 2002 *The Creation of Psychopharmacology*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass.

*House & Home*

- 1952 "Lesson for builders." November, pp. 140-142  
1953 "Air-conditioned house prize winners." June, pp. 154-155  
1953 "No space wasted on public halls or stairs in this apartment." December, pp. 2-3  
1958 "A fresh idea for hillsides: here is how it works." November, pp. 92-95

Hyslop, Margie

- 1996 "Clinic acquires local hospital." *The Montgomery Journal*, 21 August

Joyce, Anna

- 1993 "Rockville's Chestnut Lodge testing new drug." *Gazette*, undated. Located in Chestnut Lodge file at Montgomery County Historical Society

Koyl, George S., ed.

- 1956 *American Architects Directory*. Published under the sponsorship of the American Institute of Architects by the R.R. Bowker Company, New York  
1962 *American Architects Directory*. Published under the sponsorship of the American Institute of Architects by the R.R. Bowker Company, New York  
1970 *American Architects Directory*. Published under the sponsorship of the American Institute of Architects by the R.R. Bowker Company, New York

Maryland Psychiatric Society, Inc.

- 1974 "Profile of a Maryland Hospital." *The Maryland Psychiatrist*, vol.1, no.2. (March), page 6

McAllister, Elisabeth

- 1985 "Special Schools 'Salvage Lives' of Disturbed Students." *The Washington Post*, 30 May, Maryland Weekly page 1
- 1995 "Community Psychiatric Clinic is 50 and Growing." *The Washington Post*, 5 December, Maryland Weekly page 7

McClain, Buzz

- 1993 "A wonderful Harbour to drop anchor." *The Washington Times*, 10 September, pp. H18-19

Menninger, Roy W., M.D., and John C. Nemiah, M.D., eds.

- 2000 *American Psychiatry after World War II, 1944-1994*. American Psychiatric Press, Inc., Washington, D.C.

*Montgomery County Sentinel*

- 1956 "Area Research Center Given \$250,000 Gift." 28 June
- 1957 "Chestnut Lodge Ford Grant Has 4 More Years to Run." 13 June
- 1958 "Chestnut Lodge Opens New Research Facility." 21 August

National Building Museum

- 1993 "Museum News/Tribute." *Blueprints*, spring, accessed at [www.nbm.org/blueprints/90s/spring93/page13/page13.htm](http://www.nbm.org/blueprints/90s/spring93/page13/page13.htm)

Perez-Rivas, Manuel

- 1996 "Family Sells Psychiatric Hospital in Rockville." *The Washington Post*, 22 August, page B5

Plante, Hank

- 1974 "Inside Chestnut Lodge." *Montgomery County Sentinel*, 24 October

Roche, Mary

- 1953 "A house for the family with \$7,000 a year." *House Beautiful*, June, pp. 137-9, 204-205

Rovner, Sandy

- 1981 "The New Y's Guise." *The Washington Post*, 11 December, page C3

Schirmer, Henry W., AIA, ed.

- 1978 *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*
- 1980 *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*

Schirmer, Henry W., AIA, editor and publisher

- 1985 *Profile: Official Directory of the AIA*. Archimedia, Topeka, Kansas

Schirmer, Henry W., FAIA, publisher

- 1983 *Profile: Official Directory of the AIA*. Archimedia, Topeka, Kansas
- 1987 *Profile: Official Directory of the AIA*. Archimedia, Topeka, Kansas

Shorter, Edward

1997 *A History of Psychiatry, from the Era of the Asylum to the Age of Prozac*.  
John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York

Schulze, Franz

1985 *Mies Van Der Rohe: A Critical Biography*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

Thompson, Larry

1989 "Maryland's Limits on Psychiatric Care." *The Washington Post Health*, 21  
March, page 7

United States Army Corps of Engineers

1975 "Engineering Jury," *U.S. Army Chief of Engineers Distinguished Design  
Awards*

*The Washington Post*

1979 "District Names & Notes." 6 December, page DC5

1985 "Personalities." 18 April, page D3

1989 "AIA Names Local Winners." 31 October, page C2

Washington University Libraries

2003 List of Distinguished Alumni Awards, accessed 12 November at  
[library.wustl.edu/units/spec/archives/facts/alumni-awards.html](http://library.wustl.edu/units/spec/archives/facts/alumni-awards.html)

*Washingtonian Online*

2003 "Best Places to Live in Fairfax County, Reston's Paths Connect to Shops, Jobs, Schools,  
and Pools." Accessed 12 November at  
[www.washingtonian.com/schools/bestplacestolive/reston.html](http://www.washingtonian.com/schools/bestplacestolive/reston.html)

Wilson, George

n.d. "Lady with a T-Square Spurs Waterfront Plan." *Washington Star*. Located in Chloethiel  
Woodard Smith file at American Institute of Architects archives

## SUMMARY OF CHLOETHIEL WOODARD SMITH'S WORK

### APARTMENTS

*Arlington, Va., Unnamed building, House & Home December 1953*

- Twenty-unit building with four different-sized units, ranging from ground-floor efficiencies to three-bedroom duplexes. Each unit has private entrance and a living room facing landscaped grounds
- Hillside building
- Built on an odd-shaped, triangular lot
- Built for maximum number of units under local zoning, includes parking and playground tucked into leftover corners
- Laundry and utilities in basement

*Washington D.C., Capitol Park Apartments, Architectural Record June 1959, AIA Journal April 1960, Architectural Record October 1960*

- Urban renewal project for Southwest D.C.
- 1,600 units located on 550 acres, served 4,000 people
- Apartments ranged from efficiencies to two bedrooms, most with balconies
- Combines high-rise apartments and low-rise townhouses with courtyards and gardens
- Parking partly under the building, partly at ends of central garden
- Won 1960 Award of Merit from American Institute of Architects
- Also included wading pool, pavilion, and landscaping
- An architectural success, but took unreasonable time, effort, and money and was not coordinated well with other "urban renewal" efforts in the area, such as a shopping center

*Washington D.C., Harbour Square, Architectural Record September 1963*

- Urban renewal project in Southwest DC
- Apartments and townhouses to accommodate 445 families
- "One of the first to mix one- and two-story apartments within a single building." (*Blueprints*, Spring 1993)
- Includes restoration of three ca. 1700s buildings
- Designed as an urban square with courts, plazas, terraces, fountains, trees, and walking areas
- Also includes a glass-enclosed pool, retail shops, and garage parking
- Described as "luxury condos" in 1993 (*Washington Times*, 10 September 1993)

*Brookline, Mass., Brooke House*

- Apartment complex to include 2- to 14-story buildings, 760 apartments, 860-car garage, neighborhood shopping, professional offices, swimming pool, tennis court, and club (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Syracuse, N.Y., Townsend Tower*

- Apartments (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Columbia, Md., Falls Hill*

- Apartment building (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Friendship Terrace*

- Elderly housing (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

## CHESTNUT LODGE

*Rockville, Md., Architectural Forum September 1955*

- Master plan and institutional buildings, 1954
- Recreational building - First section 1954, second section 1958
- Research Center for the Chestnut Lodge Institute
- Development Plan, with Satterlee, Smith Architects. Index lists master plan, 80-bed hospital, 36-bed hospital, and proposed children's center with five buildings.
- Community Center described as "a normal building for restoring mental patients to normal life"
- Smith was partner in charge of design (FAIA application)
- Chestnut Lodge Mental Hospital. New and remodeled buildings for administration, doctors' offices, patient rooms, central dining, research center, children's center, and recreation and service facilities.

## COMMERCIAL

*Washington D.C., E Street Expressway from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> streets, 1962*

- Original plan included "cantilevered bridges brightened with precast concrete boxes alternating with open rails over the depressed road; a broad green mall and avenue for pedestrians; a pool; and a wall of trees at 20<sup>th</sup> Street." (*The Washington Post* 4 November 1989)
- The plan was altered and built

*Washington D.C., YWCA building, Ninth and G streets, The Washington Post 11 Dec 1981*

- Glass, chrome, and metal
- Southern-exposed, two-story glass panels

*Rochester, N.Y., Crossroads South*

- Garage and commercial development (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*New Haven, Conn., Crown Tower and Court*

- Downtown and residential block (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., F Street Plaza*

- Downtown street plaza (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*New York City, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Bookstore (Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., International Center*

- Chancery complex (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Arlington County, Va. National Airport*

- Metro station (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Rich's Shoe Store (Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Waterside*

- Urban multiple-use complex (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Town Square*

- Urban commercial square (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Washington Channel Bridge*

- Design and feasibility study for bridge with shops (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., Washington Channel Waterfront (Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

## **GOVERNMENT**

- Hospitals in Guayamerin and Riberalba, Bolivia, 1944 (FAIA application)
- Regimental headquarters building, Department of the Army, 1952, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Analysis of Air Force building types, Office Chief of Engineers, 1953, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Family housing units at nine bases, Department of the Air Force, 1954, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Criteria for family housing, standards for building types, Department of Defense, 1954, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Design for permanent Army structures for Office Chief of Engineers, 1954, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Participated in the formation of Department of Defense housing standards (American Architects Directory 1956)
- Office and residence, American Embassy, Asuncion, Paraguay, 1958

## HOUSES AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

*Fairfax County, Va., Pine Spring Development, House & Home November 1952, House Beautiful June 1953*

- 125 houses and apartments on meandering streets, a row of stores, and a park area.
- Use of design techniques and materials for moderate and middle-income housing
- Attention paid to building orientation to take advantage of views

*Outside Washington D.C. Air-conditioned house. House & Home June 1953.*

- Category winner of Carrier Corp. contest for an air-conditioned, flat-roof house of 1,712 square feet. Won in the 1,000-1,800 square foot category, first prize, flat roof.
- Shade trees on west side reduce heat load on west wall and roof
- Skylights
- Unusual feature of large, 12 x 24 foot multipurpose room adjoining kitchen and bedrooms but separate from living room and dining room

*Fairfax County, Va., two-story lakeside house, Architectural Record March 1956*

- “Every room in this house on the outskirts of Washington faces south toward a lake and has direct access to an out-of-doors living area – an open porch on the upper level, a terrace on the lower.”
- Wide roof overhang and setback of lower floor reduce summer sun without limiting view, and allow glass for south walls

*Washington D.C., hillside house, House & Home November 1958*

- Nearly square, at 33 x 40 feet, not strung out across the slope
- Rooms arranged around a skylit stair hall, not lined up in a row
- Two levels, both offering “outdoor living. Upstairs there is an outdoor dining spot next to the kitchen and a private patio – screened by the entry fence and carport – off the study. Downstairs the master bedroom and playroom open through sliding glass to separate terraces.”

*House overlooking Rock Creek Park, built 1962, The Washington Post 14 March 2002*

- 12,424 square feet on 1.7 acres that include a steep drop
- Exterior of rough-hewn Maryland bluestone topped by precast concrete soffits under a flat roof
- features stone, glass, and many floor-to-ceiling windows
- Described as a “somewhat eccentric house (that) might be mistaken for a modernist regional airport terminal or community center.”

*Reston, Va., Waterview and Hickory townhouses, early 1960s, [www.washingtonian.com](http://www.washingtonian.com)*

- Designed as part of a larger “walking neighborhood” near Lake Anne
- Built as part of the plan for the new town of Reston

*St. Louis, Mo., La Clede Town, Fortune magazine, January 1966*

- Attempts to recreate the spirit of old St. Louis
- Attempts to bring sense of community to the city through such amenities as no through traffic, gaslight lamps
- Row houses with varying heights, setbacks, roof lines, colors, and roof lines
- Built under the 1961 Housing Act to provide moderate-income housing through below-market interest rates on mortgages
- Built under strict FHA requirements and limited developer profits

*Bindeman residence, The Washington Post, 13 May 1979*

- Built in 1966
- “The Bindeman house ... has a quality of mystery. It’s closed to the street, open to the garden, high-ceilinged for drama, low-ceilinged for cosiness, open-planned for friendliness, zoned for privacy.”
- “...a glass wall for almost every room, including the bath, yet so protected, the house keeps itself to itself.”

*NW Washington D.C., Tregaron Estate, The Washington Post 7 August 1982*

- Plans for clusters of 120 homes on 14.6 acres
- Unclear if the homes ever were built

*Annapolis, Md., Spa Creek*

- Townhouse group (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

## MASTER PLANS/REDEVELOPMENT PLANS

Based on the projects highlighted in *Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects* (Undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation), the firm undertook several master plans and urban renewal/revitalization projects.

*Southwest Washington D.C., “Justement-Smith Plan,” Architectural Forum August 1952, Washington Star undated*

- Plan for redeveloping 427 acres in Southwest DC using federal and local aid granted in the 1949 Housing Act.
- Included two shopping centers within walking distance of all homes; apartments and townhouses for 6,043 families on 135 acres; 55 acres for park, school, and recreation; 24 acres commercial; 36 acres non-nuisance industrial; 7 acres miscellaneous public use; 169 acres streets and alleys
- Also includes public promenade 60 feet wide along a mile-long stretch of water between Fourteenth Street and Fort McNair, and large public plazas at regular intervals
- Smith was partner in charge of design (FAIA application)
- Developed for a private organization, the Federal City Council, and accepted by the Redevelopment Land Agency, which was responsible for deciding how the waterfront would be developed
- Project later came under criticism because many of the original residents, primarily low-income black people, were removed to make way for the construction

*Queens, N.Y., Arverne (date unknown)*

- Master plan and urban design for seven towns and facilities for 70,000 people
- Included housing, shopping center, schools, hospitals, offices, recreation areas, and related facilities (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Tully, N.Y., Crooked Lake (date unknown)*

- Residential community. Master plan and design for 400-acre community with single and cluster homes, clubs, boating, swimming pool, etc. (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).



*Prince George's County, Md., Ft. Washington Marina*

- Marina and shore development feasibility study for marina and adjacent residential and commercial development (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Rochester, N.Y., central city* (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Charles County, Md., Marshall Hall*

- New Town/Master plan (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Onondaga County, New York., Onondaga Lake*

- Lakefront development (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Washington D.C., skyline*

- Urban design study of the capital skyline (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

*Rochester, N.Y., Southeast Loop*

- Urban redevelopment (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).

## **NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM**

Quote from *Blueprints*, Spring 1993, "Tribute:" "She thought the key to the new use was the great roofed courtyard designed for activity by great crowds of people, reflective of the nineteenth century's excitement with vast roofed spaces for markets, department stores, and train stations. 'Today,' she wrote, 'the desks in the great courtyard below a grid of fluorescent lights destroy the space – it is a lonely, empty places that denies its scale and scoffs at its antecedents.' Her conclusion, based on careful analysis, was that the building should be a museum rather than offices, a market, a place for recreation or a records warehouse. A museum would be the 'ideal client.' "

## **OFFICE BUILDINGS**

Quote from *The Washington Post* writer Benjamin Forgey, 6 February 1982: "(Smith's) buildings at their best are characterized by a tasteful, unornamented elegance and by some attention – as much as zoning and the developers will allow – to public needs and spaces. Each of her buildings at the Connecticut site pays its respects to the corner location."

Forgey, 20 June 1992: "Things have gone pretty well until recently at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and L Street NW. It is not precisely a great urban corner, but as such things go. It is quite good. Completely rebuilt to the postwar scale of downtown Washington, it has three reasonably distinguished modern buildings designed by local architect Chloethiel Woodard Smith."

*Washington D.C., Washington Square, southwest corner Connecticut and L streets*

- Described as one of the district's biggest and most expensive private business centers
- 12-story, one million square-foot, marble and glass building distinguished by two hexagonal semi-atriums at either end of the 190-foot frontage on Connecticut. Another 380 feet of frontage on L.
- Retail stores on the ground level (*The Washington Post* 3 May 1981)

*Washington D.C., 1100 Connecticut Avenue, northwest corner of L Street*

- "1100 Connecticut is a rectangular box that aligns itself with the diagonal of the avenue, and thus cuts back at an angle along L Street to provide an appealing open corner with a fountain where people and food vendors like to congregate on sunny days" (*The Washington Post* 2 January 1982)
- "The building on the northwest corner, known by the aptly anonymous name of 1100 Connecticut Avenue, is, with its façade of gray Minnesota granite alternating with toned glass, perhaps an unwitting precursor to some of the less endearing efforts at personal expression through materials that now speckle K Street. Even here, though, Smith managed to squeeze in a little public park on the corner" (Forgey, *Washington Star* 2 February 1977).
- Minor criticism for "missed opportunities: planters that are too crowded and too narrow and too high to sit upon – wasted energy" (*The Washington Post* 2 January 1982)

*Washington D.C., Blake Building, southeast corner of Connecticut and L streets*

- "The Blake Building, with its vertical mullions of precast aggregate concrete, meets the corner in a graceful, sharp curve" (*The Washington Post* 6 February 1982)
- "...its façade of mullions in high relieve framing small vertical windows manages rather suavely to recall more elegant, earlier modern offices." (Forgey, *Washington Star* 2 February 1977).
- 11 stories high

## OTHER

- Temple Sinai Synagogue, Washington D.C., 1958, partner collaborating on design (FAIA application)
- Fletcher-Johnson School, Washington D.C. Community school for 2,500 pupils (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).
- Shaw School, Washington D.C. (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, College Park, Md. Church addition (*Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects*, undated book produced by the company, probably for marketing. Located at American Architecture Foundation).
- *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*, 1978. Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects performed 20 percent each of commercial, office, retail; educational; other institutional; and planning. Also 15 percent housing, 5 percent medical.
- *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*, 1980. Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects performed 20 percent each of commercial, office, retail; educational; other institutional; and planning. Also 15 percent housing, 5 percent medical.
- *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*, 1983. Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects performed 100 percent commercial, office, retail.

- *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*, 1985. Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects performed 100 percent commercial, office, retail.
- *Profile: Professional File Architectural Firms, The Official AIA Directory of Architectural Firms*, 1987-88. Chloethiel Woodard Smith & Associated Architects performed 100 percent commercial, office, retail.

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

- Born in Peoria, Ill., on 2 February 1910; received bachelor's degree in architecture with honors from University of Oregon in 1932, master's degree in architecture from Washington University in St. Louis in 1933; married to Bromley Smith in 1940; two children
- Chief of research and planning for the Federal Housing Agency, Washington D.C., 1936
- Private practice starting in 1939
- Received Guggenheim fellowship 1945
- Founding partner Keys, Smith, Satterlee & Lethbridge, 1951
- Honor awards from Washington Board of Trade 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955
- Award of merit NAHB 1954
- Award of merit AIA 1955
- Founding partner Satterlee & Smith 1956
- AIA Fellow 1960
- Founded Chloethiel Woodard Smith and Associates 1963
- Washington University Distinguished Alumni Award 1965
- Member of three-person engineering jury for U.S. Army Chief of Engineers Distinguished Design Awards 1975
- Member of the D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment in the 1970s
- YWCA Woman of the Year award 1985
- AIA Centennial Award 1989
- "Architects speculated that approximately 30 percent of all Washington D.C. architects had learned their craft working at one time or another in Smith's large flourishing office." (*Blueprints* Spring 1993)
- "Early work consisted of a diverse array of housing, stores, and schools, she began to design major downtown office buildings in the seventies as downtown Washington grew." (*Blueprints* Spring 1993)

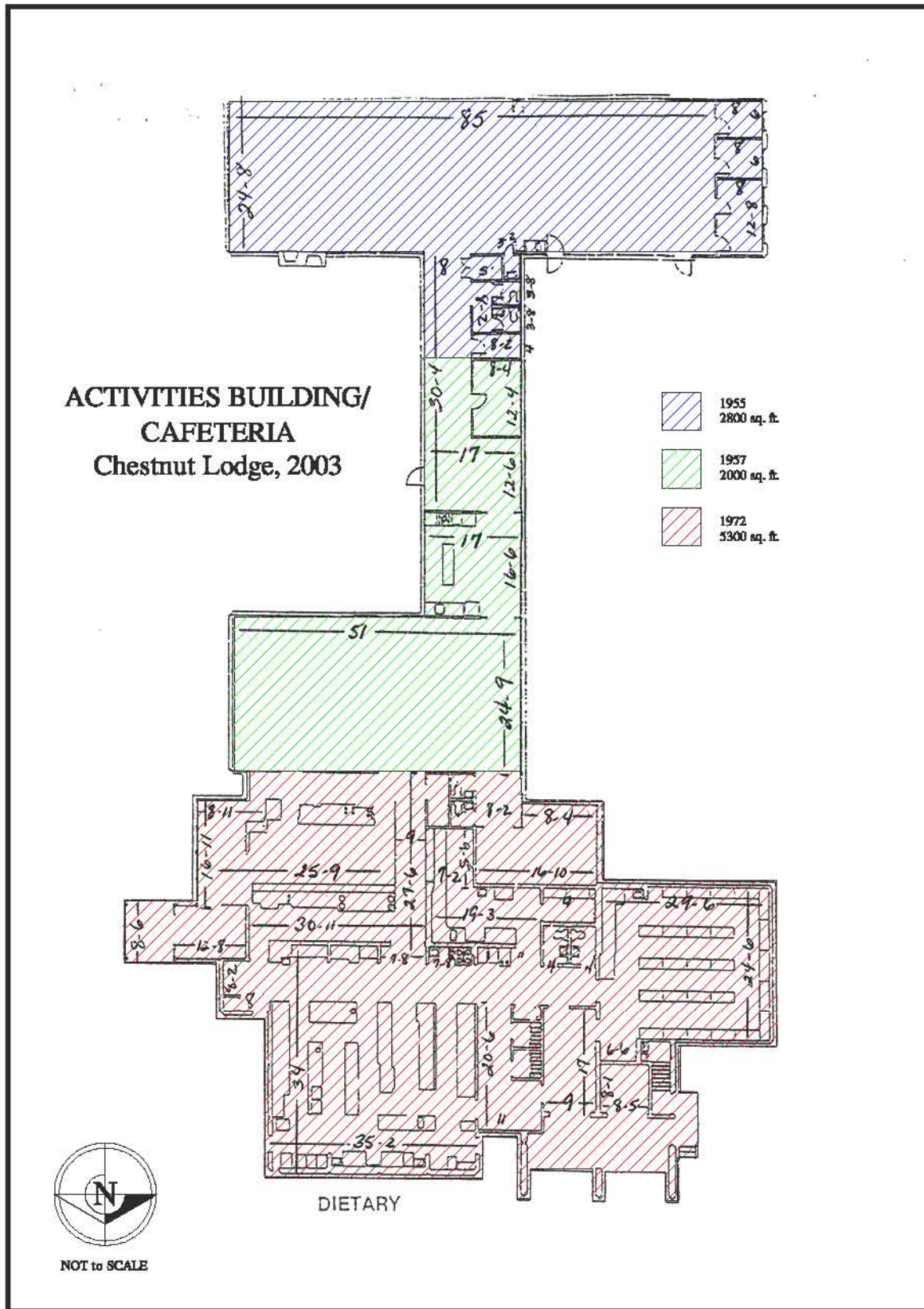


Figure 1: Floor plan - Activities Building/Cafeteria

Figure 2: Floor plan - Activities Building

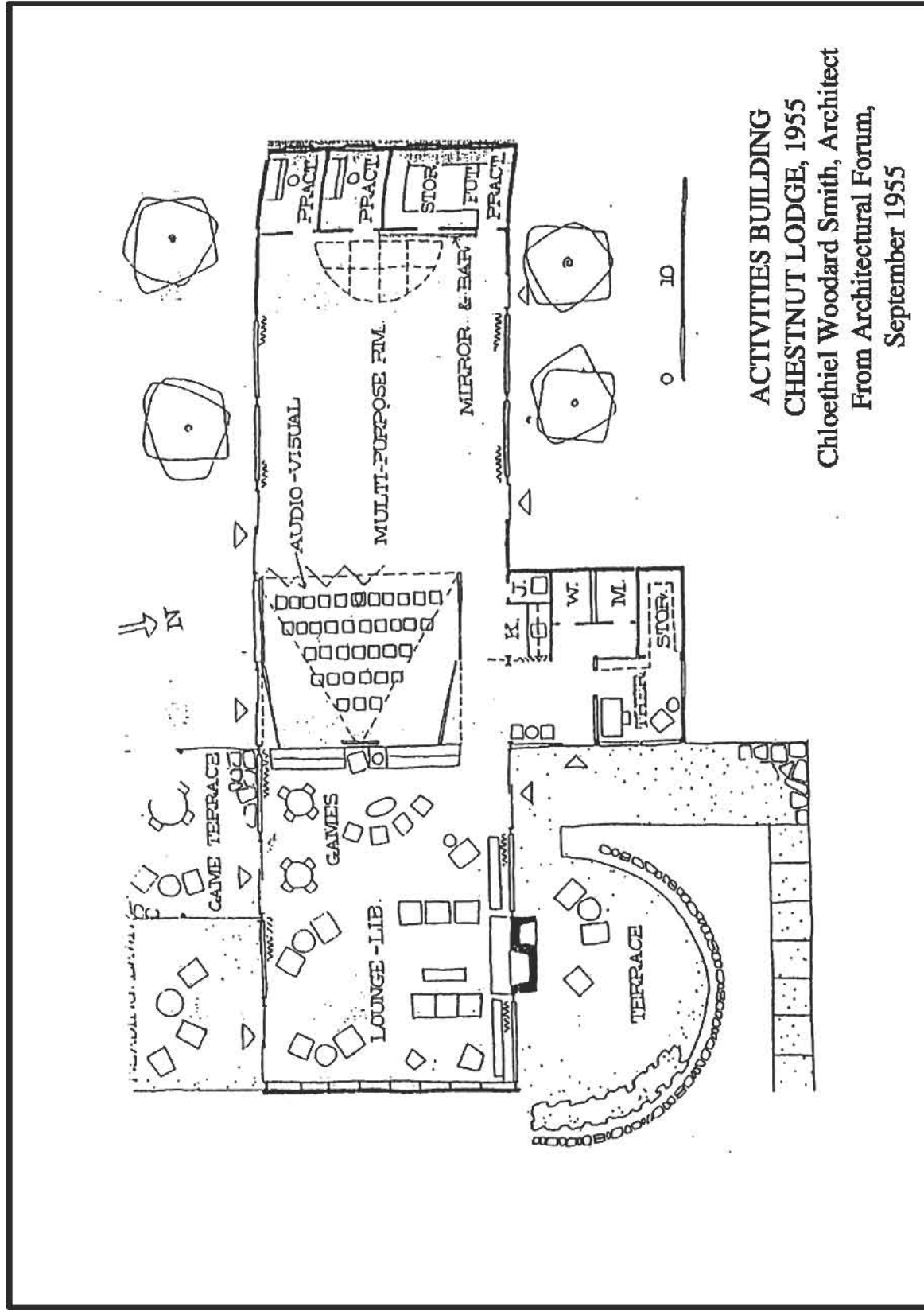


Figure 2: Floor plan - Activities Building

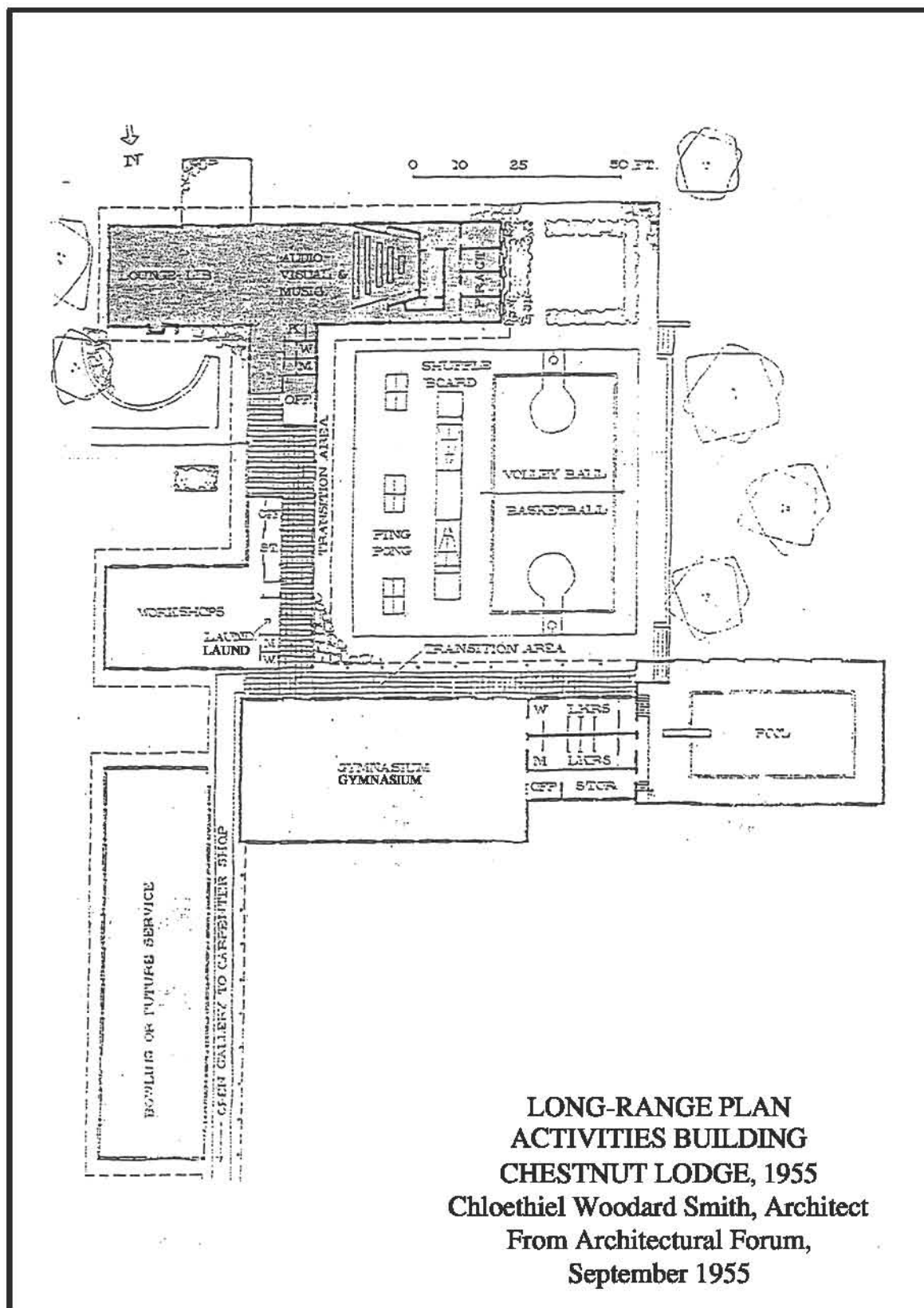


Figure 3: Long-Range Plan - Activities Building



1. East (front) elevation - looking west





2. Passageway - East elevation looking west





**3. Passageway - East elevation looking west**



4. Cafeteria - East elevation looking northeast



5. Cafeteria - East elevation, looking northeast





6. South elevation from southwest corner - looking northeast



**7. West (rear) elevation - looking northeast**



8. West elevation - looking east



9. West elevation - looking east





10. Passageway - West elevation looking east





11. Passageway and Cafeteria - West elevation looking northeast



12. Passageway and Cafeteria - West elevation looking northeast



13. Cafeteria - West elevation looking east



14. Cafeteria - West corner of north elevation looking south





15. Cafeteria - North elevation looking southeast



16. Cafeteria - North elevation looking south



17. Cafeteria - Northeast corner of north elevation looking southwest



18. Cafeteria - East elevation looking southwest





19. Cafeteria - East elevation looking west